

BA-607  
Kemp Hall, St. James College (ruins)  
West of Carroll Road  
Sparks vicinity

1859

Construction began in 1859 for a proposed college to carry on an institution founded in Washington County in 1842 and granted a charter in 1844. Bishop William Rollinson Whittingham laid the cornerstone on October 15, 1859, for a Gothic Revival building to be called Kemp Hall. Dimensions were to be 280 x 80' in the main block, and 55' high. Connecting buildings were to be 50' long and the wings 74'. The architect's drawing (dated 1860) called for gable roofing and buttresses, and a chapel topped by a bell cote; three stories high with a basement. The architect was C.H. Condit of Newark, N.J. The project was never completed. Some of the arches stood until the 1960s. The property owner was listed as Mrs. Eleanor M. Dashiell. (In 1894, the foundation was taken to build the Immaculate Conception Church in Towson.)